GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1086
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND USA
BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to normalise bilateral relations between India and the USA;

(b) the terms and conditions of USA for providing loan for the present projects, project-wise;

(c) the last official dialogue between India and USA was held;

(d) whether the present projects funded by USA have come to a halt; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to continue these projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)
(a) The Government is engaged in wide ranging dialogue with the US Government.The two Governments have agreed to work purposefully, towards developing a broad-based relationship and intensifying mutually beneficial co-operation. India and the US are engaged in an ongoing dialogue on security, non-proliferation, disarmament, regional development and related issues. This dialogue has resulted in some progress in mutual understanding on security matters. The two sides have also initiated fruitful consultation and dialogue on regional development and security, counter-terrorism and other global issues, as well as in sectors such as energy and environment.
US President Clinton is scheduled to visit India from 20th March for five days. Both sides expect the visit to pave the way for a qualitatively new and closer relationship between the two countries.
(b) Loans by US Banks and other agencies for projects in India are available at terms and conditions based on normal financial, commercial and development considerations. Bilateral projects through its US Agency for International Development are funded on grant basis.
(c) The last meeting of the ongoing Indo-US dialogue, on security, non-proliferation, disarmament and related issues was held in London on January 18-19, 2000.
(d) With effect from 1st December 1998 and further extended for an indefinite period on 27th October 1999, the US has removed most restrictions on funding by US agencies, including US Private Banks, US Export Import Bank, Overseas Private Investmen Corporation and Trade Development Authority, for projects in India.
(e) Not applicable.